



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

***Raised Bill No. 6420***

LCO No. 3623

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Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT PROHIBITING SCHOOL DISTRICTS FROM CHARGING  
UNIVERSAL, NON-REFUNDABLE STUDENT FEES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-221 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

3 (a) [Boards] Local and regional boards of education shall prescribe  
4 rules for the management, studies, classification and discipline of the  
5 public schools and, subject to the control of the State Board of  
6 Education, the textbooks to be used; shall make rules for the control,  
7 within their respective jurisdictions, of school library media centers  
8 and approve the selection of books and other educational media  
9 therefor, and shall approve plans for public school buildings and  
10 superintend any high or graded school in the manner specified in this  
11 title.

12 (b) Not later than July 1, 1985, each local and regional board of  
13 education shall develop, adopt and implement written policies  
14 concerning homework, attendance, promotion and retention. The  
15 Department of Education shall make available model policies and

16 guidelines to assist local and regional boards of education in meeting  
17 the responsibilities enumerated in this subsection.

18 (c) [Boards] Local and regional boards of education may prescribe  
19 rules to impose sanctions against [pupils] students who damage or fail  
20 to return textbooks, library materials or other educational materials.  
21 [Said] Such local or regional boards of education may charge [pupils]  
22 students for such damaged or lost textbooks, library materials or other  
23 educational materials and may withhold grades, transcripts or report  
24 cards until the [pupil] student pays for or returns the textbook, library  
25 book or other educational material.

26 (d) Not later than July 1, 1991, each local and regional board of  
27 education shall develop, adopt and implement policies and procedures  
28 in conformity with section 10-154a for (1) dealing with the use, sale or  
29 possession of alcohol or controlled drugs, as defined in subdivision (8)  
30 of section 21a-240, by public school students on school property,  
31 including a process for coordination with, and referral of such students  
32 to, appropriate agencies, and (2) cooperating with law enforcement  
33 officials.

34 (e) Not later than July 1, 1990, each local and regional board of  
35 education shall adopt a written policy and procedures for dealing with  
36 youth suicide prevention and youth suicide attempts. Each such local  
37 and regional board of education may establish a student assistance  
38 program to identify risk factors for youth suicide, procedures to  
39 intervene with such youths, referral services and training for teachers  
40 and other school professionals and students who provide assistance in  
41 the program.

42 (f) Not later than September 1, 1998, each local and regional board of  
43 education shall develop, adopt and implement written policies and  
44 procedures to encourage parent-teacher communication. These policies  
45 and procedures may include monthly newsletters, required regular  
46 contact with all parents, flexible parent-teacher conferences, drop-in  
47 hours for parents, home visits and the use of technology such as

48 homework hot lines to allow parents to check on their children's  
49 assignments and students to get assistance if needed. For the school  
50 year commencing July 1, 2010, and each school year thereafter, such  
51 policies and procedures shall require the district to conduct two  
52 flexible parent-teacher conferences for each school year.

53 (g) (1) No local or regional board of education shall charge a student  
54 activity fee to any student who does not participate in any athletic or  
55 extracurricular activity not required by the school, if the proceeds of  
56 such student activity fee are used to fund any such athletic or  
57 extracurricular activity. If a local or regional board of education  
58 charges such student such student activity fee, such student shall be  
59 refunded an amount equal to such student activity fee.

60 (2) No local or regional board of education shall charge any fee to a  
61 student who demonstrates an inability to pay such fee. If a local or  
62 regional board of education charges such student a fee, such student  
63 shall be refunded an amount equal to such fee.

64 (3) No local or regional board of education shall withhold any  
65 grades, transcripts or report cards or refuse to transfer the education  
66 records, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-220h, of a  
67 student described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection for the  
68 nonpayment of the fees described in said subdivisions (1) and (2).

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2011	10-221

***Statement of Purpose:***

To prohibit local and regional boards of education from charging fees to students who do not participate in any nonrequired athletic or extracurricular activities; to prohibit local and regional boards of education from charging any fees to students who are unable to pay such fees; and to prohibit local and regional boards of education from withholding the grades, transcripts or report cards or refusing to

transfer the educational records of such students who do not pay any such fee.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*